

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-03 FSE-00 /014 W

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R 100900Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9221

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 1257

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP MY

SUBJECT: LOCAL WAGE SURVEY

1. YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING IN THE DEPT ABOUT THIS TIME A LOCAL WAGE SURVEY PREPARED BY ROBERT MACCALLUM ON DETAIL FROM EMBASSY VIENTIANE. HE HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB, NOT ONLY IN THE THOROUGHNESS OF THE SURVEY ITSELF, BUT ALSO IN THE WAY HE COLLABORATED WITH THE LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN CONDUCTING IT AND EXPLAINING ITS RESULTS TO THEM. I SHOULD LIKE TO ASK YOUR ASSISTANCE IN HAVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SURVEY ACTED ON IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.

2. FAIR AND JUST DETERMINATION OF SALARY SCALES IS A TIME CONSUMING PROCESS, AND IN A PERIOD OF RAPID INFLATION THE DELAYS IN ADJUSTMENT CAUSE UNAVOIDABLE INEQUITIES. I THINK WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MAKE THIS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE, AND TO REMIND OURSELVES THAT ECONOMIC JUSTICE DELAYED IS ALSO JUSTICE DENIED. AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT KEEPING FAITH WITH OUR ALLIES, THERE IS NO GROUP THAT DESERVES A HIGHER CLAIM ON OUR TIME AND ENERGIES THAN OUR LOCAL EMPLOYEES. I HAVE HEARD YOU SPEAK WITH GREAT FEELING ON THIS POINT, AND DON'T NEED TO DEVELOP IT FURTHER.

3. WE HAVE HEARD INFORMALLY THAT IT WILL TAKE ABOUT A MONTH TO COMPLETE ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION OF THE WAGE SURVEY AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS. I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY IT SHOULD TAKE SO LONG. MY OLD BOSS, WHEN SOMEONE SAID HE HADN'T HAD TIME TO COMPLETE A

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JOB, USED TO ASK, "DID YOU SLEEP LAST NIGHT?" CAN'T WE APPLY SOME

OF THIS SPIRIT AND COMPLETE THE PROCESS WITHIN A WEEK OR TEN
DAYS?
UNDERHILL

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NNN

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